

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1104
By Brooks (Knox)

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Carson-Newman College forensics team upon winning the Pi Kappa Delta National Comprehensive Invitational Tournament.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those students who, through their extraordinary academic efforts, have distinguished themselves as talented young citizens of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy group is the Carson-Newman College forensics team from Jefferson City, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, recently this outstanding squad of students swept the 2006 Pi Kappa Delta National Comprehensive Invitational Tournament, bringing home National Championship titles in both the Overall Combined Sweepstakes and Individual Events Sweepstakes, as well as championships in Duo Interpretation, After Dinner Speaking, and the Individual Events Pentathlon; and

WHEREAS, forensics is the umbrella term for debate and related public speaking competitions, and several organizations oversee particular forms of the discipline; the Pi Kappa Delta-sponsored National Comprehensive Tournament was held March 9-12, 2006, in Gatlinburg, and Carson-Newman proudly took home the National Championship despite facing stiff competition from more than 300 challengers representing 48 colleges and universities from across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman's champion forensics team represents the very heart of Carson-Newman College as a link to its gloried past, and is comprised of young men and women who, beyond their major and general education courses, assimilate mountains of material and endure diligent practice sessions; and

WHEREAS, the championship team is led by first-year Coach Chip Hall, a Maine native and graduate of Berry College and the University of West Florida. He is extremely pleased with this monumental victory, and truly deserving of much credit and praise; in addition to his class and team practice schedule, Coach Hall has spent twenty hours a week working one-on-one with his forensics students, and will have taken them to ten tournaments across some 7,000 miles by the end of the travel season; and

WHEREAS, of particular note was the outstanding performance of Carson-Newman sophomore Wendell Moon, who won the individual Pentathlon Award at the tournament, and also teamed with freshman Aaron Watson to garner first place in Duo Interpretation; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the shared first-place win in Duo Interpretation, Aaron Watson also placed fifth in Prose Interpretation, was a Semi-finalist Persuasive Speaking, and was a Quarter-finalist with the Parliamentary Debate Team; and

WHEREAS, the other individual award winner was sophomore Ryan Hubbard, who was named the 2006 Pi Kappa Delta After Dinner Speaker champion following an arresting performance which showcased his phenomenal talent and dedication; and

WHEREAS, other competitors from Carson-Newman College brought home 23 additional trophies, including 8th place Pentathlon, 3rd place Prose Interpretation, and 3rd place Duo Interpretation (with Rachel Nave) awards won by Ryan Hubbard; 2nd place Duo Interpretation (with Rachel Nave), 2nd place Prose Interpretation, and Excellence in Impromptu Speaking awards won by Wendell Moon; Quarter-finalist Parliamentary Debate Team and Quarter-finalist Impromptu Speaking awards won by Nathanael Lee; 3rd place Parliamentary Debate Speaker, Semi-finalist Prose Interpretation, Quarter-finalist Parliamentary Debate Team, Excellence in Extemporaneous Speaking, and Excellence in Persuasive Speaking awards won by Justin Musick; 6th place Pentathlon, 2nd place Duo Interpretation (with Wendell Moon), 3rd place Duo Interpretation (with Ryan Hubbard), 3rd place After Dinner Speaking, and Semi-finalist Poetry Interpretation awards won by Rachel Nave; and a Quarter-finalist Parliamentary Debate Team award won by Brandon Winters; and

WHEREAS, this peerless championship team was comprised of Aaron Watson; Jessica Deason; Chris Heggem; Justin Musick; Nathanael Lee; Alisha Watson; Emily Smith; Brandi

Bolyard; Brandon Winters; Ryan Hubbard; Rowdy Cloud; Hannah Oliver; Rachel Nave; Joe Greene; Jared Pickens; Wendell Moon, and Jonathan DeViney; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the members and coach of the Carson-Newman College forensics team for their many accomplishments and their stature as some of the most talented, dedicated, and impressive young people in our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the Carson-Newman College forensics team of Jefferson City, Tennessee, on their outstanding performance in winning the National Championship at the 2006 Pi Kappa Delta National Comprehensive Invitational Tournament and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.